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HR-3636

24 January 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

TO: AD/ONE, For Possible Future Use.  
Director and Executive, For Information.

SUBJECT: Informal Receipt of a Copy of NSRB Document 116/2

REFERENCE: NSRB Document 116/2

1. The enclosed document is an NSRB "plan for planning" consisting of some 257 "projects." It covers the entire field of mobilization planning, with which the NSRB is charged by law. The projects are classified according to the eight major areas into which the NSRB's field of interest can be subdivided, each area being covered by a separate office of the NSRB Staff. The eight areas are: Production, Materials, Energy and Utilities, Manpower, Transportation, Economic Management, Foreign Activities, and Civilian Mobilization.

2. A hasty glance at the document reveals at once that the quality and quantity of the intelligence provided to support mobilization planning will have a most important bearing on the results obtained. In fact, in some cases planning should not proceed without intelligence support. The importance of the relationship of intelligence to planning is brought to a focus in the project PA-13, "Foreign Economic Intelligence and Research."

3. The document is offered by the NSRB to all the agencies concerned (except CIA), which are requested to participate in the development of a mobilization planning program, using the document as the basis for thought on the subject.

4. The enclosed document has not been addressed officially to CIA, but Mr. Casey, who is Acting Director of the Office of Program Coordination of the NSRB Staff, recently passed a copy informally to a member of CIA. The NSRB decision not to give a copy officially to CIA was based on the idea that the Executive Secretary of the NSRB received copies so he could provide one to CIA if he desired. Apparently the NSRB is reluctant to deal directly with CIA, at any rate at an official high level.

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5. For the record, about the same time that the document was received informally by CGARS, Mr. Symant, Chief of the Foreign Activities Office of the NSAS Staff, showed [redacted] Chief of the Economic Division of NSAS, the draft of a letter he would like to have dispatched by the Chairman of the NSAS to the NSC. The letter would ask that a formal directive be issued by the NSC to CIA to provide coordinated intelligence support to the NSAS. CGARS has seen this draft, and CIAPD and NSAS, together, formulated certain suggestions which [redacted] then transmitted to Mr. Symant. The latter still has the task of coordinating the draft within the NSAS Staff and then obtaining the approval of the Chairman. It is thought that CIA will probably be able to see the draft again before it is sent out to the NSC — if it should go that far.

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6. It appears so far that this situation is working out well. An opportunity may thus be afforded to CIA to help straighten out the whole field of economic intelligence with the backing of a member of the NSC, namely the Chairman of the NSAS, who will have a major interest in getting good results. How this will be arranged with State remains to be seen.

ROBERT CHILES, Chief,  
Coordination, Operations,  
and Policy Staff

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